

Retiree issues

The mailing address for retirees to request awards or ID cards:

ARPERCEN
ATTN: ARPC-SFE
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63132-5200

For corrections of military records, use attention line ARPC-SFA-A.

To request an Army Discharge Review Board, the attention line is ARPC-SFA-D.

For copies of documents from the retiree's personnel file:

National Personnel Records Center
National Archives and Records Administration
ATTN: NCPMA-T
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63132-5100

NARA also processes requests for information on discharged or deceased military personnel (attention line NCPMA-C).

Olympics award

Soldiers who directly supported the 1996 Summer Olympics may qualify for the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

Reservists assigned or attached by orders to Joint Task Force Olympics for 30 days or more between Oct. 2, 1995, and Sept. 30, 1996, are eligible.

Local commanders may waive the 30-day rule if the Reservist's contributions were significant.

More than 13,000 active duty, Reserve and National Guard soldiers supported the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Atlanta, Ga., and other competition cities.

Dental X-rays

Duplicate dental panoramic X-rays are no longer required for deploying soldiers.

The Army is moving toward using DNA specimens for remains identification. DNA specimens are collected at mobilization stations. (The Army Reserve is developing a DNA collection plan for all USAR soldiers).

One panograph is still required in each soldier's dental records.

Retired Reserve or discharge?

By SFC Dorothy F. Young

Two 45-year-old soldiers of the same rank receive 20-year letters stating they're eligible for retired pay at age 60. One elects discharge, the other Retired Reserve.

What's the difference?

Let's start with definitions:

- **Discharge** – a complete separation from military service. Discharged soldiers cannot be recalled to active duty, even with full mobilization. A discharge does not affect eligibility for retired pay at age 60 if the soldier is eligible for retired pay at the time of separation.

- **Retired Reserve** – soldiers are subject to involuntary recall to active duty in the event of a full mobilization. Time served in the Retired Reserve is considered nonqualifying time, and is only good for longevity pay purposes. Retirement points are not earned while assigned to the Retired Reserve, but can be earned if recalled to active duty.

Assignment to the Retired Reserve is not automatic. Soldiers not requesting assignment to the Retired Reserve are discharged.

"Gray area" retirees, those in the Retired Reserve, have many of the same benefits as soldiers on active Reserve status. For example, soldiers in the Re-

tired Reserve can use the commissary, PX and space available travel on military aircraft. Soldiers discharged cannot use these services. Soldiers in the Retired Reserve are issued an ID card; discharged retirees are not.

Soldiers in the Retired Reserve will receive a larger retirement check at age 60 than those discharged. (Retired Reservists continue to accrue service time for pay, up to the maximum of 26 years.) For discharged soldiers, all service time stops upon discharge.

For example, using the pay scale effective Jan. 1, 1997, an E-7 who transferred to the Retired Reserve with 22 years service and 4,000 retirement points would receive \$776 in monthly retired pay. An E-7 with the same point total who elected discharge at 22 years of service would receive \$692 per month in retired pay.

While pay is different, all other retiree benefits are the same at age 60.

For more details, consult ARPERCEN Pamphlet 135-2, *Handbook on Retirement Services for Army Reserve Component Personnel and Their Families*, dated 1996. For a copy, write:

U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center
ATTN: SFR-S (Mr. Jennings)
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63132-5200

CGSOC graduates

Army Reserve graduates of the 1996 Command and General Staff Officer Course – RC (Term 1 of the resident course at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.):

Majors **Sakena Belal**, **Priscilla A. Berry**, **John R. Biggs**, **Timothy L. Brown**, **Charley C. Bryant III**, **Richard F. Burroughs**, **Norman L. Cotton**, **Michael Curry**, **Edwin C. Domingo**, **Kevin J. Finnegan**, **Eric R. Fox**, **George L. Hargreaves**, **Cornelius K. Hetherington**;

Mark N. Hogan, **Etta L. Johnson**, **Garland M. Knott Jr.**, **David E. LeBlanc**, **James M. McNamara Jr.**, **Gary A. Morris**, **Cynthia A. O'Connell**, **Willie C. Pratt**, **Bienvenido Rivera**, **Michael J. Shafer**, **Susan K. Springman**, **Victoria B. Swank**, **Stuart G. Taylor Jr.** and **Scott W. Tronnier**.

95th soldiers earn EIB

Ten soldiers from the 95th Division (Institutional Training) earned the Expert Infantry Badge last fall at Fort Campbell, Ky.

They are: Capt. Edward C. McFadden; 1st. Sgts. Robert D. Carr, Wesley Welch and Paul Casas Jr.; MSgt. Richard S. Estorga; SFCs Julius M. Anderson, Terry T. Frazier, James F. Marsh and Dominic J. Donajkowski; and SSgt. Randell C. White.

Historically, only about 20 percent of those testing Armywide earn the badge.

EIB events include weapons firing, 12-mile road march and proficiency in over 35 infantry skills.